



Bright from the Start Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning
2 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive SE, 670 East Tower
Atlanta, GA 30334
Phone: (404) 657-5562 WWW.DECAL.GA.GOV

Date: 9/10/2024 **VisitType:** Initial Licensing Study

Arrival: 9:00 AM **Departure:** 5:50 PM

CCLC-63880

Child Development Center - Blackshear

5218 Highway 121 North Blackshear, GA 31516 Pierce County
(912) 449-6765 rhall@ymcawaycross.org

Application Services Unit Consultant

Toni Williams

Phone: (770) 302-7628

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toni.williams@decal.ga.gov

Mailing Address
Same

Quality Rated: ★ ★

Compliance Zone Designation			Compliance Zone Designation - A summary measure of a program's 12 month monitoring history, as it pertains to child care health and safety rules. The three compliance zones are good standing, support, and deficient.
09/10/2024	Initial Licensing Study	Good Standing	
			Good Standing - Program is demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules.
			Support - Program performance is demonstrating a need for improvement in meeting rules.
			Deficient - Program is not demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules.

Ratios/License Capacity

Building	Room	Age Group	Staff	Children	NC/C	Max 35 SF.	35 SF. Comp.	Max 25 SF.	25 SF. Comp.	Notes
Main	A - Main Hall-Right	Three Year Olds	3	16	C	18	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	B- Main Hall-Left	One Year Olds	2	12	C	18	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	C Right Hall - Left	One Year Olds	3	7	C	22	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	D-Right Hall-Right	Three Year Olds	2	16	C	23	C	NA	NA	TV,Transitioning
Main	E- Left Hall-Right	GA PreK	2	14	C	22	C	NA	NA	
Main	F-Left Hall-Left	GA PreK	1	15	C	21	C	NA	NA	Nap
Main	I-Behind Lunchroom	One Year Olds	3	9	C	14	C	NA	NA	Nap
		Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 115			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0			Building @35 capacity limited by Fire Marshall Limitations		
Total # Children this Date: 89		Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 115			Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0					

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	A	126	C
Main	B	91	C

Comments

An Administrative Review was conducted on August 24, 2024. Staff files, children's files, training, and background checks were all reviewed. An in person Initial Licensing Study was conducted on September .10, 2024 The exit conference was conducted on September 10, 2024 at 5:30 p.m.with the Provider. Permission to Operate was granted on this date. Facility does carry Liability Insurance.

Any rule violation which subjects a child to injury or life-threatening situation or any rule violations previously cited but not corrected, may result in the imposition of an adverse enforcement action. Serious or continued noncompliance may also jeopardize participation in one or more DECAL program(s).



Please refer to the website, <http://www.dec.state.ga.us/CCS/RuleAndRegulations.aspx>, for information regarding October 1, 2018 rule changes about Criminal Records Checks that may affect your facility. In summary,

- New records checks will be required to be completed if a staff member experiences a six month break in service from the child care industry
- New clearance is required at least once every five years
- Any staff member solely responsible for supervising children will be required to have completed a comprehensive background clearance
- All staff members are required to have completed at least a national fingerprint based clearance check
- Any staff member with only the national fingerprint based clearance, must be under constant and direct supervision of a staff member with a satisfactory comprehensive records check clearance
- Facilities are required to use DECAL KOALA for Criminal Records Checks, including to verify portability of an employee

You have received permission to operate and the form received with this report is intended to serve as a temporary license which is **valid for thirty(30) days**. Your actual license/ will be emailed to you upon receipt of the licensing fee. You may pay the licensing fee either online at <http://www.dec.state.ga.us/> or by certified check or money order mailed to: Bright from the Start, 2 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive SE, Suite 670 East Tower, Atlanta, GA 30334

O.C.G.A. Section 42.1.12(i)(2) requires Bright from the Start: Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning to notify licensed child care programs on accessing and retrieving from the Georgia Bureau of Investigation's (GBI) website a list of the names and addresses of all registered sexual offenders. Please see GBI's website located at <http://gbi.georgia.gov> to access the Georgia Sex Offender Registry.

Refutation Process:

You have the right to refute any of the citations noted in this report with which you disagree. To refute a citation(s), do the following:

- 1) Log into DECAL KOALA www.decalkoala.com with the userid for your program
- 2) On the home page scroll down to the Inspection Reports and select 'Refute Citation' for the visit report in dispute
- 3) Select the specific rule number(s) that you are refuting, add the reason for disagreement regarding the rule citation, and upload supporting documentation
- 4) Submit the refutation in DECAL KOALA to Child Care Services (CCS) within 10 business days of the completion date.

Your refutation will be forwarded to the appropriate CCS manager, who will follow up with you about your concerns. If you have any questions about this process, contact our office at 404-657-5562.

Bright from the Start recommends that all licensed child care providers carry liability insurance coverage sufficient to protect its clients. If you do not have this liability insurance, you are required to post a notice with ½ inch letters in a conspicuous location in the program, notify the parent or guardian of each child in care in writing, obtain their signature to acknowledge receipt and maintain this written acknowledgment on file at the program at all times while the child attends the program and for 12 months after the child's last date of attendance. (O.C.G.A. Section 20-1A-4)



Important Quality Rated/CAPS Update:

As January 1, 2022, child care providers must be Quality Rated to receive Childcare and Parent Services (CAPS). Newly licensed, or new to CAPS providers may be eligible for the new CAPS/QR Provisional Status, allowing for scholarships while working toward a star rating.

Contact the Quality Rated help desk at 855-800-7747 or qualityrated@dec.state.ga.us for more information. Free technical assistance is available!



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(Findings Report)

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The following information is associated with a Initial Licensing Study:

Activities and Equipment

591-1-1-.03 Activities

Met

Comment

The Consultant discussed with the Provider the importance of ensuring that the media requirements are met in each classroom.

Correction Deadline: 9/10/2024

591-1-1-.12 Equipment & Toys(CR)

Not Met

Comment

Equipment and furniture observed to be properly secured, as applicable.

Comment

The consultant discussed adding equipment and toys to enhance variety in each classroom.

Finding

591-1-1-.12(2) requires that all equipment and furniture be free from hazardous conditions such as, but not limited to, sharp rough edges or toxic paint; and be kept clean. It was determined based on observation that the chairs and tables in the classrooms without plastic chairs had rusted legs on chairs and tables. Also the shelves in each classroom had chipped paint and discolored paint.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will ensure that equipment and furniture are used by the age-appropriate group of children.

Correction Deadline: 11/10/2024

591-1-1-.35 Swimming Pools & Water-related Activities(CR)

N/A

Comment

Center does not provide swimming activities. No pool observed on site.

Facility

591-1-1-.06 Bathrooms

Technical Assistance

Comment

Please have staff clean and monitor bathrooms for necessary supplies.

Technical Assistance

The consultant advised the Provider to check all bathroom ventilation to ensure they are working properly.

Correction Deadline: 10/10/2024

591-1-1-.19 License Capacity(CR)

Met

Comment

Licensed capacity observed to be routinely met by center. The overall licensed capacity is 115 children.

591-1-1-.25 Physical Plant - Safe Environment(CR)

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance

The consultant discussed with the provider the safe storage of the plastic bags used to store the linen for the pre-k classrooms. The consultant advised the provider to store those bags in a closed container during the nap time so that they are inaccessible to the children. A supervision plan would be put in place.

Correction Deadline: 9/10/2024

Technical Assistance

The consultant discussed with the provider that areas of the center like the flooring, trash cans, bathroom walls and knobs needed to be updated.

Correction Deadline: 9/10/2024

591-1-1-.25 Physical Plant-Structural/Mechanical

Met

Comment

The consultant discussed with the provider to ensure that all classrooms during nap remain dimly lit but not so dark that the children can't be seen but dimly lit.

Correction Deadline: 10/10/2024

591-1-1-.26 Playgrounds(CR)

Not Met

Finding

591-1-1-.26(4) requires that playgrounds be protected from traffic or other hazards by a (4) four foot high fence or other barrier approved by this Department. Fencing material shall not present a hazard to children and shall be maintained so as to prevent children from leaving the playground area by any means other than through an approved access route. Fence gates shall be kept closed except when persons are entering or exiting the area. It was determined based on observation that the playground fence was not attached at the bottom and had a gap that measured more than 4 inches causing an entrapment hazard. The fence separating the toddler playground from the after school playground was detached from the fence causing an entrapment hazard.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will routinely check the fence to determine if it is in good repair and remains at least 4 feet high, and will repair any hazards. The Center will train Staff to identify and report any fence hazards and to keep the fence gates closed when not in use.

Correction Deadline: 11/10/2024

Finding

591-1-1-.26(6) requires that playground equipment provide an opportunity for the children to engage in a variety of experiences and shall be age-appropriate. For example, toddlers shall not be permitted to swing in swings designed for School-age Children. The outdoor equipment shall be free of lead-based paint, sharp corners and shall be regularly maintained in such a way as to be free of rust and splinters that could pose significant safety hazard to the children. All equipment shall be arranged so as not to obstruct supervision of children. It was determined based on observation that the large blue composite on the playground was being used by children younger than the age requirement of 5-12 that was posted. Also, on the wooden play structure the monkey bars as well as the pole on the bridge were rusted. Lastly, the swing set on the toddler playground hooks and chains were rusted.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The Center will provide a variety of age-appropriate equipment that is arranged so as not to obstruct supervision of children. Staff will check the equipment daily to ensure that the equipment is free of hazards, rust and splinters.

Correction Deadline: 11/11/2024

Health and Hygiene

591-1-1-.10 Diapering Areas & Practices(CR)**Not Met****Comment**

Staff stated proper procedures. Sinks with warm running water observed adjacent to proper diapering surfaces in all classrooms approved for diapering.

Finding

591-1-1-.10(1) requires Centers first licensed after March 1, 1991, and Centers that are renovated after March 1, 1991, to provide ventilation in the diapering areas with functioning exhaust fans and a duct system or by the required amount of window space provided by operable windows when open. It was determined based on observation that the one year old classroom behind the cafeteria did not have ventilation. All diapering rooms should have ventilation.

POI (Plan of Improvement)

The responsible person(s) at the center will ensure that the exhaust fans and duct systems are functioning or that the required amount of operable window space is provided in each diapering area.

Correction Deadline: 10/10/2024**Technical Assistance**

The consultant discussed with the provider to remove current changing pad and purchase a non-porous correct size with a belt or use the current surface without a pad.

Correction Deadline: 9/10/2024**591-1-1-.17 Hygiene(CR)****Met****Comment**

Proper handwashing observed throughout the center..

591-1-1-.20 Medications(CR)**N/A****Comment**

Discussed medication documentation, administration, and storage.

Safety**591-1-1-.11 Discipline(CR)****Met****Comment**

Appropriate discipline was observed.

591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR)**Met****Comment**

Center does not provide routine transportation or field trips. Consultant discussed transportation requirements if/when the facility decides to incorporate transportation. The center will contact their regional consultant and complete the required two (2) hours transportation training prior to transporting children

Sleeping & Resting Equipment**591-1-1-.30 Safe Sleeping and Resting Requirements(CR)****Met****Comment**

Pleasant naptime environment observed. Center does not plan to serve infants and no cribs were evaluated on this date. The correct number of cots/mats, sheets, and cover were observed on this date.

Staff Records**591-1-1-.09 Criminal Records and Comprehensive Background Checks(CR)****Met****Comment**

Ten (10) of ten (10) staff records were observed to have comprehensive satisfactory Criminal Background Check determination letters on file.

Technical Assistance

The consultant discussed with the provider that it is required for her staff to complete ten (10) clock hours of training every year.

Correction Deadline: 10/10/2024

Technical Assistance

The consultant discussed with the Provider the need to have all professional learning plans on file for all staff without the required credentials.

Correction Deadline: 9/10/2024

Technical Assistance

The consultant discussed with the provider that the Center must maintain a copy and/or written verification of the credential or degree awarded to the lead teacher that is required by these rules in the lead teacher's file, and to make the document available for inspection.

Correction Deadline: 9/10/2024

Staffing and Supervision**Comment**

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

Comment

Adequate supervision observed during the inspection visit.